

JASPER

NATIONAL PARK
CANADA



FOREWORD

The National Parks of Canada are areas of natural beauty and special interest that have been "dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education, and enjoyment." Established primarily for the preservation of the unspoiled natural landscape and for the protection of the native wildlife, they are to be "maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The discovery of mineral hot springs bubbling from the slopes of Sulphur Mountain, by engineers exploring the route for Canada's first transcontinental railway led to the establishment of Canada's first national park. From this small area of ten square miles at Banff, Alberta, set apart in 1885, the national parks system has been extended until it embraces 26 separate areas totalling more than 29,000 square miles.

Although a few parks have been devoted chiefly to the conservation of certain species of big game animals once threatened with extinction, some contain sites memorable in the early history of Canada. Others have been developed so that park visitors may more conveniently view the magnificent scenery and relax in the enjoyment of the inspirational and peaceful environment. From the sea-girt hills on the Atlantic Coast across the rivers and lakes of Central Canada to the alpine vistas of the Rockies and Selkirks, these national playgrounds provide ideal areas for nature study and for recreation.

It is the responsibility of the National Parks Service of the Lands and Development Services Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, to administer these natural areas for the enjoyment of Canada's present and future generations. By progressive stages the parks have been made more easily accessible, wildlife scientifically managed, public services provided, and accommodation and recreational facilities expanded. A staff of experienced wardens keeps constant vigilance throughout these park areas to ensure the protection of the flora and fauna, as well as the safety and convenience of park visitors. Conservation of the forests, the flowers, and the natural wildlife is their chief concern, and the co-operation of all visitors in this important work is greatly appreciated.

In marking, preserving, and restoring sites of national historic importance the National Parks Service is advised by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, an honorary body of recognized historians representing various parts of the country. From the Fortress of Louisbourg in Nova Scotia to Fort Prince of Wales on Hudson Bay, nine such sites are administered as National Historic Parks, and many other places of historical importance have been suitably commemorated.

Also of historical significance was the act of linking two great national parks in Alberta and Montana to be known as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. Commemorating the peace that has existed for over 130 years between adjoining nations, this unspoiled area of natural beauty is symbolic of the goodwill enjoyed by these two peoples.

The National Parks of Canada are part of a great national heritage, and under careful administration will continue as a perpetual asset—undiminished by use—for all future generations.

Front Cover Photo:

Snow Dome Glacier

VISITORS GUIDE

Location and Description

Perhaps no part of the "Great Mountain Barrier" provides a more fascinating chapter in the pages of the early history of Western Canada than the area now occupied by Jasper National Park. Along its famous Athabaska Trail, through its green valleys, and across its wild, rugged mountain passes came the early fur traders, explorers, missionaries, prospectors, engineers, scientists, botanists, geographers, and a host of other intrepid pioneers in the great cavalcade of by-gone years.

Jasper National Park, established in 1907, is one of the largest national parks on the North American Continent. It contains an area of 4,200 square miles extending along the eastern slope of the Canadian Rockies in the western part of the Province of Alberta. Adjoining it to the south is Banff National Park, and on the west, over the Continental Divide, Mount Robson Provincial Park in British Columbia.

The Jasper Park region is one of superb scenic grandeur. Amid a veritable sea of peaks, many of which lift snow-crowned heads far above the clouds, are beautiful alpine valleys set with sparkling lakes or coursed by rushing streams. Within the southern area of the park and extending into Banff Park lies part of the vast Columbia Ice-field—more than 100 square miles in extent—a remnant of the great Ice Age. From this immense ice-cap, lying thick on the shoulders of the mountains, issue numerous glaciers that melt and give birth to rivers whose waters eventually find their way to three oceans, the Pacific, the Arctic, and the Atlantic.

The mountains in Jasper Park consist of a series of roughly parallel ranges running from the southeast to the northwest. The remarkable folds, upheavals, and faults in the rock strata are visible everywhere, as are the evidences of erosion caused mainly by the recession of the glaciers, which at one time filled the valleys. Cutting through these ranges from the south to the northeast corner of the park is the broad valley of the Athabaska River. The main tributaries of the Athabaska—Sunwapta, Whirlpool, Miette, Maligne, Snaring, Rocky, and Snake Indian Rivers—all flow through the park area.

HOW TO REACH THE PARK

Jasper National Park is served by railway, highway, and air transportation. The transcontinental line of the Canadian National Railways crosses the park, following the valleys of the Athabaska and Miette Rivers and climbing through the famous Yellowhead Pass.

The Edmonton-Jasper Highway, coming in from the northeast, also follows the Athabaska River; and the Banff-Jasper Highway, running north and south through the heart of the Canadian Rockies, joins the Trans-Canada Highway near Lake Louise in Banff National Park.

Park visitors travelling by air will find at Edmonton one of the finest airports in Western Canada. There is also a small airfield, capable of accommodating light aircraft, within a short distance of Jasper townsite.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

Accommodation in the park is provided by several hotels in Jasper townsite; by Jasper Park Lodge, a luxurious bungalow-type hotel; and by several bungalow camps and chalets located at well known beauty spots throughout the park area. Unless visitors are carrying their own camping equipment it is advisable to arrange accommodation in advance. Lists of approved accommodation and agencies making reservations can be supplied upon request by the Parks Information Bureau at Jasper.

NAME	LOCATION	CAPACITY	SINGLE	DAILY RATES	
					DOUBLE
x † Jasper Park Lodge	Lac Beauvert (4 miles from Jasper)	650 rooms	\$11.00 up	\$21.00 up	(A)
† Astoria Hotel	Jasper	32 rooms	\$2.50 to \$3.50	\$3.50 to \$4.50	(E)
† Athabaska Hotel	Jasper	53 rooms	\$2.50 to \$4.00	\$4.00 to \$6.00	(E)
x Pyramid Hotel	Jasper	21 rooms	\$1.25 to \$2.00	\$3.50 to \$4.00	(E)
x Pine Bungalow Cabins	One mile N.E. of Jasper	49 cabins	Modern (2 to 6 persons) Semi-modern (3 to 4 persons)	\$4.00 to \$10.00 \$4.00 to \$5.00	(E)
x Roche Bonhomme Bungalows	Jasper	8 cabins	\$3.50 up	\$6.00 to \$8.00 per cabin	(E)
x † Pocahontas Chalet	Pocahontas	12 persons	\$2.00 up		(E)
x † Tekarra Lodge	One mile S.E. of Jasper	34 cabins	2 to 6 persons 2 to 4 persons	\$8.00 to \$14.00 per cabin (section of double cabin)	(E)
		1 chalet— 7 rooms	\$5.00	\$7.50 to \$9.50	
x Kiefer's Kosy Kabins	1¼ miles south of Jasper	18 cabins	2 to 4 persons 4 to 6 persons	\$5.00 to \$7.00 \$7.00 to \$9.50 per cabin	(E)
x † Becker's Bungalows	Whistler's Creek	34 cabins	2 to 4 persons	\$7.50 to \$12.00	(E)
x † Lake Edith Camp (Y.M.C.A.)	Lake Edith	60 persons	Chalet rooms— \$6.25 Tent Cabins— \$5.50 Children 6 to 12 Group rates on request	\$10.50 \$9.00 \$2.75	(A) (A)
x † Pyramid Pines Chalet	Pyramid Lake	20 persons	\$5.00		(A)
x † Miette Hot Springs Bungalow Camp	Miette Hot Springs	10 cabins 4 tent cabins	2 to 6 persons \$3.00—each additional .50	\$7.50 to \$10.50	(E)
x Well's Bungalows	Athabaska Falls	7 log cabins	2 to 4 persons	\$4.00 to \$6.00 per cabin	(E)
x † Fred Brewster's Rocky Mountain Camps	Amethyst Lakes Medicine Lake Maligne Lake Shovel Pass	15 persons 10 persons 30 persons 12 persons	\$10.00 \$ 8.00 \$10.00 and \$12.00 \$ 8.00		(A) (A) (A) (A)
x † Rainbow Tours' Camp	Maligne Lake	35 persons	\$8.00 (heated tent cabins)		(A)
x † Sunwapta Bungalows	Sunwapta Falls	8 cabins	2 to 4 persons	\$ 4.00 to \$ 7.50	(E)
x Patricia Lake Auto Cabins	Patricia Lake	50 tent cabins	1 to 4 persons	\$ 1.50 to \$ 4.00	(E)
x † Columbia Icefields Chalet	Athabaska Glacier	40 persons	\$3.50 to \$ 7.00 \$8.00 to \$11.50	\$ 5.50 to \$10.00 \$14.50 to \$19.00	(E) (A)

(E) indicates European Plan (without meals)

(A) indicates American Plan (with meals)

x indicates summer season only

† indicates dining room or lunch counter

NOTE: Rates quoted are latest available but may be subject to minor revision from time to time.

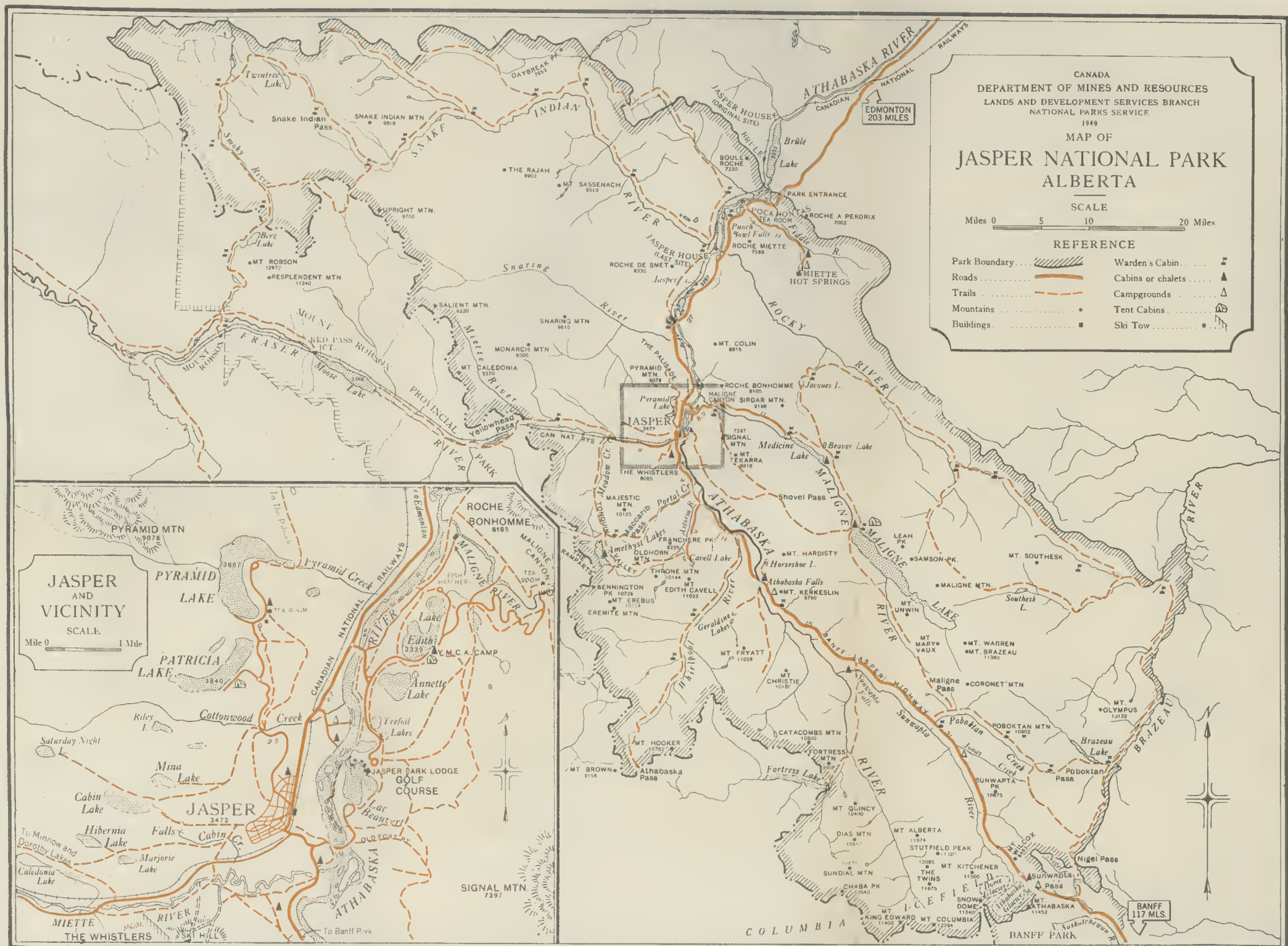
CAMPING

Camp-grounds with parking space for automobiles and trailers, and equipped with kitchen shelters, camp-stoves, fuel, electricity, and running water are operated by the National Parks Service at Miette Hot Springs, 38 miles from Jasper, and at Cottonwood Creek (Athabaska River), 1½ miles from Jasper. For each period of two weeks or less camping fees are \$1.00 for an ordinary tent. For automobile trailers the rate is 50 cents for one day, \$1.00 for two days, and \$2.00 for any period over two days up to two weeks.

Facilities are provided in the park for youth camping under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A., Boy Scouts, and Youth Hostellers.

Picnic grounds equipped with shelters and camp-stoves are located on the Banff-Jasper Highway at Athabaska Falls, Sunwapta Falls, Jonas Creek, and Columbia Ice-field. There are also picnic shelters at Pyramid, Caledonia, Leach, and Beaver Lakes.

Tea-houses are operated during the summer season by private enterprise at Pyramid Lake, Maligne Canyon, Mount Edith Cavell, and at Pocahontas.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration and Motor Licences

Motorists entering Jasper National Park must register and obtain transient motor licences, as required by the regulations governing the use of national park highways.

- (1) Licence good for any number of trips during fiscal year ending March 31st, which will also be honoured in all national parks in Canada: Automobile, \$2.00; auto with trailer attached, \$3.00.
- (2) Single-trip licence during period November 1st to March 31st inclusive: Automobile, 50¢; auto with trailer attached, \$1.00.

Special licences may be obtained for motor vehicles used for commercial purposes

PARK ADMINISTRATION

A resident superintendent is in charge of the administration of Jasper National Park. The Park Administration building, which is located in the centre of Jasper townsite, contains the offices of the Park Superintendent, warden service, and Engineer's Branch. Information concerning accommodation, roads, trails, places of interest, and recreational facilities in the Park, as well as detailed maps and publications, may be obtained in the Parks Information Bureau on the main street of Jasper. The Park regulations are enforced by the Park Warden Service, assisted by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

WILDLIFE PROTECTION

The National Parks Act requires that all parks shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the use of future generations. Consequently, all wildlife within park boundaries is rigidly protected, and hunting and the possession of unsealed firearms are strictly prohibited. As the parks are also game sanctuaries, visitors must not molest any wild animals or birds or their nests. Dogs or cats are not allowed in any national park except under special permission.

Wildlife in the national parks adds immensely to the interest of these areas. It is virtually impossible to adequately protect these wild creatures without the co-operation of all visitors.

RECREATION

Bathing and Swimming—For those who prefer cool water for summer bathing, the Twin Lakes, and Lakes Annette and Edith, not far from Jasper, are among the most popular. A heated outdoor swimming pool is operated at Jasper Park Lodge for the use of guests. Bathing in the mineral waters of Miette Hot Springs, a modern establishment nestled amid towering mountain peaks, 38 miles from Jasper, is very popular with visitors. There is a nominal fee of 25 cents.

A large outdoor swimming pool, which will form part of a general recreational development, is in the course of construction in Jasper townsite.

Boating—The placid waters of Lac Beauvert, and Lakes Patricia, Pyramid, Annette, Edith, Medicine, and Maligne appeal to those who love the "song of the paddle". As the shadows of evening descend, beautiful sunsets reflect myriads of colours that forever remain in memory's picture gallery. Ambitious paddlers may choose a voyage down the Athabaska River, where portages are few and thrills are frequent.

Boats propelled by motor power are not allowed on park waters without written permission of the Superintendent.

Climbing—Jasper Park offers almost unlimited opportunities for mountain climbing with its hundreds of peaks, many of which rise more than 10,000 feet above sea-level. The Tonquin Valley, Fryatt Valley, Columbia Ice-field, and Maligne Lake regions contain many negotiable peaks, and several in the vicinity of Jasper are comparatively easy of ascent. Other peaks have never been climbed. The Alpine Club of Canada, which sponsors supervised climbing, meets in Jasper Park every second year.

Mountaineers come to Jasper Park from many parts of the world seeking "new heights to conquer". Climbers are well advised to secure competent guides and proper equipment before attempting the more difficult peaks.

Cycling—A bicycle is a great convenience for sight-seeing in Jasper Park, as it can be used not only on the main park highways, but on many of the secondary roads and trails leading to exquisite scenic areas. Visitors may hire bicycles locally.

Fishing—Consistent use of modern methods, including the operation of the Jasper Fish Hatchery, has assured good angling in many of the lakes and streams in the park. Visitors can obtain at the Parks Information Bureau in Jasper the publication entitled "Angler's Guide to the Mountain National Parks," which contains up-to-date information about the most popular fishing waters in the park and a list of the species to be caught.

A fishing licence is required for all mountain national parks, except Glacier and Mount Revelstoke, and is good in any of these parks during the season.

The co-operation of anglers in completing creel census cards is greatly appreciated.

As special fishing regulations are in force from time to time, visitors are requested to consult park officers regarding open waters, season's catch limits, and fishing licences.

Golf—An 18-hole golf course operated in conjunction with Jasper Park Lodge is one of the most picturesque in the world. It has a delightful setting on the shores of Lac Beauvert, with mountains flanking every green and fairway, and is a championship course in the full sense of the term. The green fee is \$3.00.

Hiking—Regardless of advances in automotive transportation, there will always be those who prefer to do most of their travelling on foot, away from the busy thoroughfares.

Altogether there are 582 miles of trails in Jasper National Park, as well as 48 miles of fire and secondary roads.

Motoring—In addition to the two main park roads—the Edmonton-Jasper Highway and the Banff-Jasper Highway—there are several branch roads leading to such picturesque areas as Miette Hot Springs, Medicine Lake, Maligne Canyon, Pyramid Lake, Mount Edith Cavell and Angel Glacier, and Lac Beauvert.

Visitors arriving by railway, or those otherwise dependent upon public services, may hire cars in Jasper, or join one of the daily motor tours from Jasper and Jasper Park Lodge.

Tennis and Bowling—Courts operated by a private tennis club in Jasper are open to visitors on payment of a small fee. Three courts are available to guests at Jasper Park Lodge. As part of a new recreational development in Jasper townsite, six new clay courts are under construction, and will be operated by the Park Service.

A bowling green is also in course of development.

Trail Riding—Mention of trails in Jasper Park conjures up visions of early pioneers, fur traders, and other intrepid pathfinders who travelled the famous Athabaska Trail on their journeys across the "Great Mountain Barrier".

Although much of the glory and thrilling adventure associated with this region departed with the dwindling fur trade, the brilliance of its scenic gems is undimmed by time.

New trails through the wilderness have been built to new scenic areas, and Jasper has become one of the chief outfitting centres for trail-riding expeditions in the Canadian Rockies. Sure-footed saddle ponies may be hired locally, and guides are available if required. Supervised trail trips are conducted from Jasper and Jasper Park Lodge.

Winter Sports—Skiing and ski mountaineering are perhaps the chief winter sports in Jasper National Park. On Whistlers Mountain near Jasper townsite, a downhill ski course has been laid out, and more recently a ski tow has been added. A practice hill and a slalom course are also available. Ski mountaineering is popular in the Tonquin Valley, Maligne Lake, and Columbia ice-field regions, where both winter and summer skiing are enjoyed. One of the finest skiing areas in the park, the Marmot Basin about seven miles south of Jasper, is now being developed. Other winter sports include skating, curling, and tobogganing. Annual curling bonspiels and winter carnivals are held in Jasper townsite.

SIGHTSEEING

Visitors who return to Jasper Park year after year freely admit that they have seen only a small part of this great mountain kingdom. There is always something new and interesting left over for another vacation; always another mountain peeping over the shoulders of the range in front of it, beckoning the adventurous deeper into the heart of the Rockies; always another canyon, turbulent stream, waterfall, or lake in the valleys beyond. And there is always the thrill of discovering the habitat of some of the wild creatures, which are among the park's major attractions.

Much of Jasper Park's most impressive scenery is now accessible by motor road or by improved trails. Interesting short sightseeing trips include those to LAC BEAUVERT, 2 miles; PYRAMID LAKE, 4½ miles; MALIGNE CANYON, 9 miles; MEDICINE LAKE, 18 miles; and, perhaps the most popular of all, MOUNT EDITH CAVELL and ANGEL GLACIER, 18 miles from Jasper. Many sightseeing expeditions into remote areas of the park are arranged each year, and the number of these parties of "modern pathfinders" has greatly increased since the war. The Banff-Jasper Highway, completed in 1940, opened up to the motorist a vast area of the most exquisite alpine scenery in the park, including the great COLUMBIA ICE-FIELD and its numerous glaciers. The road passes close to the tongue of ATHABASKA GLACIER where motorists often leave their cars and walk out on the melting ice—a refreshing experience in midsummer. ATHABASKA FALLS and SUNWAPTA FALLS are reached by this highway, and scores of lofty peaks rising more than 10,000 feet are visible along the road. Eleven of the highest peaks in the Canadian Rockies are in the immediate vicinity of the COLUMBIA ICE-FIELD.

Sightseeing on foot, or on horseback, can lead the visitor to some of the most primitive areas in the park. Expeditions into the wilderness may travel to such wild and spectacular scenic places as THE COMMITTEE'S PUNCHBOWL, reached by way of the Whirlpool River, FORTRESS LAKE, reached from Sunwapta Falls; BRAZEAU LAKE, via Poboktan Creek; MALIGNE LAKE, via the Maligne River; AMETHYST LAKES and the TONQUIN VALLEY via the Astoria River; SOUTHESK LAKE, via the river by the same name; YELLOWHEAD LAKE, via the Miette River; BERG LAKE, via Smoky River; TWINTREE LAKE, via Snake Indian River; and many other places of interest to the geologist, the nature lover, the artist, and the seeker of high adventure.

One of the most spectacular scenic areas in the park is located on the upper reaches of Blue Creek Valley. This is a wide, open valley, the floor of which is dotted with islands of firs and aspens. The "Natural Arch", blood-red peaks, and pink shale slopes are among the interesting features of this delightful area.

FAUNA AND FLORA

Animals and Birds—Jasper National Park is one of the greatest wildlife sanctuaries on the continent, and contains large numbers of all big game animals native to the Rocky Mountains. Many of these animals may be seen from the park trails, and even from the highways. Included are the Rocky Mountain sheep—the picturesque "bighorn" of the western mountains; Rocky Mountain goat, usually found at high altitudes; elk, mule deer, moose, mountain caribou, and black, brown, and grizzly bear. Predators that inhabit the park include cougar or mountain lion, coyote, and wolf. Fur-bearing animals such as beaver, marten, otter, mink, snowshoe rabbit, and Rocky Mountain marmot or "whistler" are numerous, as well as several species of squirrel and chipmunk.

Bird life is also abundant in the park. Migratory waterfowl observed include ducks, geese, and gulls. White-tailed and willow ptarmigan, blue grouse, eagles, owls, and osprey are common. Many varieties of song birds and birds of brilliant plumage may be seen during the summer months.

Trees and Flowers—The most prolific forest growth in the park is the hardy lodgepole pine. Spruce, aspen poplar, and balsam poplar are also common. Douglas fir grows in the vicinity of Jasper, and on the upper slopes will be found Engelmann spruce.

Wild flowers grow in profusion throughout the park, particularly in the valleys or on the alpine uplands. Among the common species are columbine, white dryas, India paint brush, yellow adder's tongue, fireweed, alpine arnica, harebell, alpine anemone, larkspur, heliotrope, and mountain heather.

The trees and the flowers add fragrance and charm to the national parks; their protection is therefore of special interest to all visitors.

FIRE PREVENTION

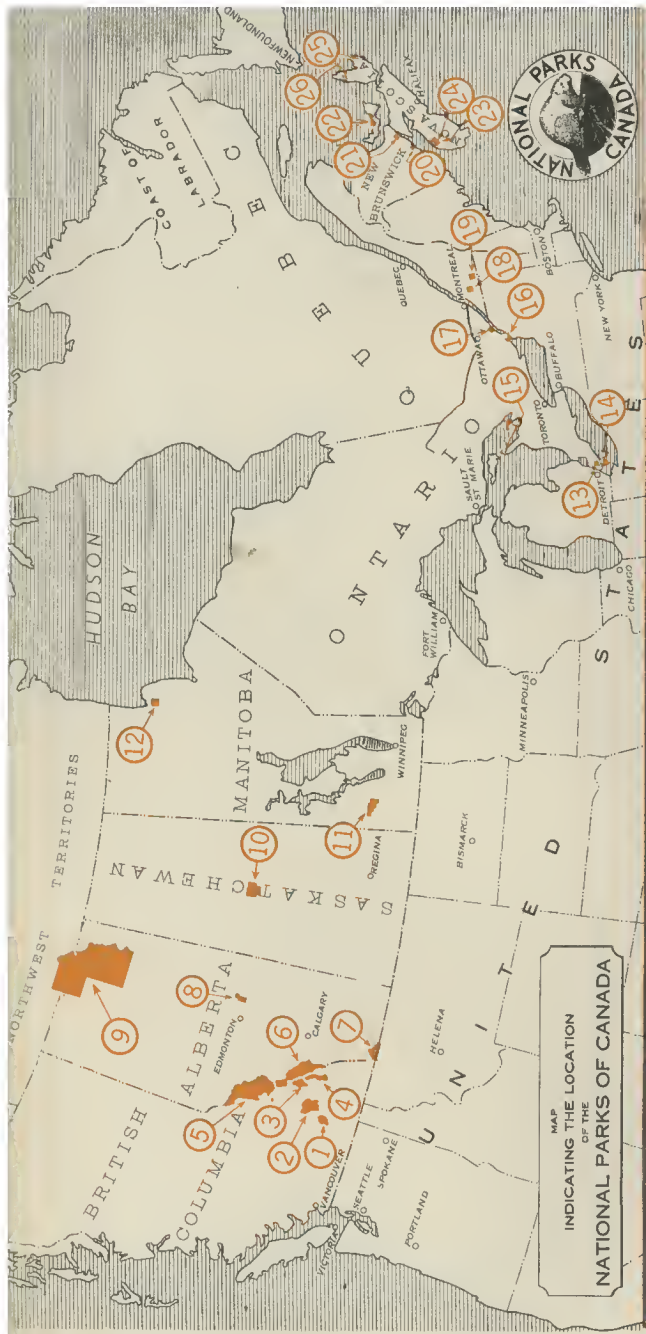
Visitors are requested to co-operate with park officers in the prevention of fires. Matches, cigarette butts, pipe ashes, and other smoking materials should be completely extinguished before being thrown away, and then dropped only on bare soil.

Camp-fires may be kindled only at places provided for the purpose, and must be completely extinguished before being left. Persons using the park trails unaccompanied by a licensed guide should acquaint themselves with the parks regulations, and secure particulars concerning suitable camp-sites. Parties making overnight or extended trips into park areas from railroads or park highways should register with the District Park Warden or the Chief Park Warden of Jasper National Park. Any fire observed by a park visitor should be extinguished if possible. Fires that cannot be extinguished promptly should be reported to the nearest park officer.

A fire in a national park may cause damage that cannot be repaired in a hundred years.

Key to map of National Parks

1. Mount Revelstoke
2. Glacier
3. Yoho
4. Kootenay
5. Jasper
6. Banff
7. Waterton Lakes
8. Elk Island
9. Wood Buffalo
10. Prince Albert
11. Riding Mountain
12. Fort Prince of Wales
13. Fort Malden
14. Point Pelee
15. Georgian Bay Islands
16. St. Lawrence Islands
17. Fort Wellington
18. Fort Chambly
19. Fort Lennox
20. Fundy
21. Fort Beausejour
22. Prince Edward Island
23. Port Royal
24. Fort Anne
25. Fortress of Louisbourg
26. Cape Breton Highlands



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